

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Claims 1-8 (Canceled)**

Claim 9 (**Currently Amended**) ~~[[A]]~~ An isolated DNA molecule comprising

- (I) a plant-expressible promoter;
- (II) a DNA region, which when transcribed yields a poly-(ADP-ribose)-glycohydrolase (ParG) inhibitory RNA molecule, said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule comprising a sense nucleotide sequence of at least 20 consecutive nucleotides of a coding region of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3 and said ParG inhibitory RNA further comprising an antisense nucleotide sequence of at least 20 consecutive nucleotides of the complement of a coding region of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or of the complement of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3, wherein said sense and antisense nucleotide sequence are capable of forming a double stranded RNA region comprising said at least 20 consecutive nucleotides; and
- (III) a 3' end region involved in transcription termination and polyadenylation.

Claim 10 (**Currently Amended**) The DNA molecule according to claim 9, wherein said DNA region comprises a nucleotide sequence of at least 21 to 100 consecutive nucleotides ~~of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1, 2, or 16 or at least 21 to 100 nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID 3, 4, 15, or 23.~~

Claim 11 (**Currently Amended**) A plant cell from an Arabidopsis, Brassica or tobacco plant comprising the DNA molecule of any one of claims 9; or 10; 20 or 21 wherein said DNA molecule is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule.

Claim 12 (**Currently Amended**) An *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant comprising consisting essentially of the plant cells of claim 11.

Claim 13 (**Currently Amended**) A process for producing stress-tolerant plants an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant tolerant to high light stress, comprising the steps of crossing a plant of claim 12 with another plant of same species to obtain progeny plants comprising said DNA molecule, wherein said DNA molecule is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule and identifying a plant tolerant to high light stress.

Claim 14 (**Currently Amended**) Seeds and propagating material of [[a]] the plant according to claim 12, wherein said seed and propagating material comprises the DNA molecule, and wherein said DNA molecule is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule.

Claim 15 (**Currently Amended**) A plant resistant to high light stress ~~Plants obtainable or~~ obtained by the process of claim [[8]] 16.

Claim 16 (**Currently Amended**) A method of producing an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or tobacco plant tolerant to high light stress conditions, comprising the steps of

(a) providing plant cells from an *Arabidopsis*, *Brassica* or a tobacco plant with a chimeric gene to create transgenic plant cells, said chimeric gene comprising the following operably linked DNA fragments;

(i) a plant-expressible promoter;

(ii) a DNA region, which when transcribed yields [[an]] a ParG inhibitory RNA molecule, said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule comprising a sense nucleotide sequence of at least 21 to 100 consecutive nucleotides of a coding region of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3 and said ParG inhibitory RNA further comprising an antisense nucleotide sequence of at least 21 to 100 consecutive nucleotides of the complement of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID No. 1 or the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID No. 3 wherein said sense and antisense nucleotide sequence are capable of forming a double stranded RNA

~~region comprising said at least 21 to 100 consecutive nucleotides said DNA region comprising a nucleotide sequence of at least 21 to 100 nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence encoding a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 16 or at least 21 to 100 nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3, 4, 15, or 23;~~

- (iii) a 3' end region involved in transcription termination and polyadenylation;
- (b) regenerating a population of transgenic plant lines from said transgenic plant cell wherein said chimeric gene is transcribed to yield said ParG inhibitory RNA molecule; and
- (c) identifying a stress tolerant plant line within said population of transgenic plant lines.

Claims 17-21 (Canceled)